



National Institute of Standards & Technology

Certificate of Analysis

Standard Reference Material[®] 2646a

Propane in Nitrogen

(Nominal Amount-of-Substance Fraction – 1000 $\mu\text{mol/mol}$)

This certificate reports the certified value for cylinders of Lot 103-C-XX.

This Standard Reference Material (SRM) is a primary gas mixture that, the amount-of-substance fraction expressed as concentration [1], may be related to secondary working standards. The SRM is intended for the calibration of instruments used for propane determinations and for other applications.

This SRM mixture is supplied in a DOT 3AL specification aluminum (6061 alloy) cylinder with a water volume of 6 L. Mixtures are shipped with a nominal pressure exceeding 12.4 MPa (1800 psi), which provides the user with 0.73 m³ (25.8 ft³) of useable mixture. The cylinder is the property of the purchaser and is equipped with a CGA-350 brass valve, which is the recommended outlet for this propane mixture. NIST recommends that this cylinder **NOT** be used below 0.7 MPa (100 psi).

Certified Value: This SRM mixture has been certified for propane concentration. The certified value, given below, applies to the identified cylinder and NIST sample number.

Propane Concentration: 979.1 $\mu\text{mol/mol}$ \pm 6.6 $\mu\text{mol/mol}$

Cylinder Number:

NIST Sample Number:

The uncertainty of the certified value includes the estimated uncertainties of the gravimetrically prepared primary standards, the analytical comparisons of the primary standards to the lot standard (LS), and the uncertainty of comparing the LS with each of the mixtures comprising the lot. The uncertainty is expressed as an expanded uncertainty, $U = ku_c$, with u_c determined from experiment and a coverage factor of $k = 2$. The true value for the propane concentration is asserted to lie in the interval defined by the certified value $\pm U$ with a level of confidence of approximately 95 % [2].

Expiration of Certification: This certification is valid until **01 January 2009**, within the measurement uncertainties specified, provided the SRM is handled and stored in accordance with the instructions given in this certificate. However, the certification will be nullified if the SRM is contaminated or modified.

Hydrotest Date: 10/95

Blend Date: 06/98

Cylinder and Gas Handling Information: NIST recommends the use of a high purity, two-stage pressure regulator with a stainless steel diaphragm and CGA-350 outlet to safely reduce the pressure and to deliver this SRM mixture to the instrument. The regulator should be purged several times to prevent accidental contamination of the sample.

The analytical measurements leading to the certification of this current SRM lot was performed by M.E. Kelley of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division.

Stephen A. Wise, Chief
Analytical Chemistry Division

Gaithersburg, MD 20899
Certificate Issue Date: 26 July 2005
See Certificate Revision History on Last Page

Robert L. Watters, Jr., Chief
Measurement Services Division

The overall direction and coordination of the technical work required for certification of this SRM lot were performed by F.R. Guenther of the NIST Analytical Chemistry Division.

The support aspects involved in the issuance of this SRM were coordinated through the NIST Standard Reference Materials Program by C.S. Davis of the NIST Measurement Services Division.

Mixture Preparation: The gas mixtures comprising this SRM lot were prepared in accordance with NIST technical specifications by a commercial specialty gas vendor under contract to NIST. The specifications stipulate that each SRM mixture be identical in propane concentration and stable with time.

Analytical Methods: Analyses of the propane concentration for this lot of cylinders were conducted by comparing each cylinder mixture to a representative cylinder chosen from the lot, the lot standard (LS), using a research gas chromatograph (GC) equipped with a thermal conductivity detector (GC/TCD). Assignment of the propane concentration to the LS was accomplished by comparison to primary gravimetric standards using the GC/TCD.

Homogeneity Analysis: Each of the component mixtures, which comprise this SRM lot, was compared to the LS using the GC/TCD. An analysis of variance indicated that sample-to-sample component concentration differences were not statistically significant. This indicates that within the precision of the NIST measurements, all of the cylinders comprising this SRM lot have identical propane concentrations. Therefore, a single concentration has been assigned to the entire SRM lot.

Propane Concentration Value Assignment: The certified propane concentration for this SRM lot was computed from the assigned concentration for the LS and the homogeneity analysis.

Stability: Periodic analyses of SRM units from this lot are performed at NIST to monitor stability. If significant changes in the propane concentration are observed, the purchaser will be notified. Refer to the "Cylinder and Gas Handling Information" section for proper handling of this SRM. Registration (see attached sheet) will facilitate notification.

REFERENCES

- [1] Taylor, B.N.; *Guide for the Use of the International System of Units (SI)*; NIST Special Publication 811; U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC (1995).
- [2] ISO; *Guide to the Expression of Uncertainty in Measurement*; ISBN 92-67-10188-9, 1st ed.; International Organization for Standardization: Geneva, Switzerland (1993); see also Taylor, B.N.; Kuyatt, C.E.; *Guidelines for Evaluating and Expressing the Uncertainty of NIST Measurement Results*; NIST Technical Note 1297; U.S. Government Printing Office: Washington, DC (1994); available at <http://physics.nist.gov/Pubs/>.

Certificate Revision History: 26 July 2005 (This editorial revision corrects the description of the "Certificate Revision History" dated 07 July 2005); 07 July 2005 (This technical revision reflects an extension in the certification period); 31 May 2000 (Original certificate date).

Users of this SRM should ensure that the certificate in their possession is current. This can be accomplished by contacting the SRM Program at: telephone (301) 975-6776; fax (301) 926-4751; e-mail srminfo@nist.gov; or via the Internet at <http://www.nist.gov/srm>.